

Announcement

Public Review Draft Environmental Assessment for Fagaalu Flood Mitigation Project Federal Emergency Management Agency

The Region IX office of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which has been incorporated into the Department of Homeland Security, has received an application from the American Samoa Territorial Emergency Management Coordinating Office (TEMCO) to complete a flood control project. TEMCO has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Public Assistance Program funding for damages to Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Center (LBJ Medical Center) in Fagaalu Village caused by overbank flooding of Fagaalu Stream during the Presidentially declared disaster of May 2003. The flooding necessitated the relocation of many patients and the closure of some medical wards for several days.

As the LBJ Medical Center is the only major medical facility serving American Samoa, TEMCO has identified the need to reduce the flood hazard on Fagaalu Stream by the LBJ Medical Center as one of its highest priorities. Therefore, action is needed to reduce the flood hazard to the LBJ Medical Center.

FEMA has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the subject actions, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (PL 91-190) and FEMA's implementing regulations at 44 CFR Part 10. The EA evaluates the impacts of the proposed actions on the human environment.

FEMA is making the draft EA available for public review and comment. The draft EA is available on-line at: <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs.shtml>. A hard copy of the document may also be viewed at the following location:

American Samoa Government
Department of Commerce
Executive Office Building
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

To request a copy of the document or to provide comments regarding the draft EA, please direct queries to the following address:

Environmental Officer
FEMA, Region IX
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, California 94607

Comments must be submitted by October 8, 2004. Until that date, FEMA will take no further action regarding the EA.